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Mississippi Baptists On The Rise

Statistics Chart Growth For 1979 In All Areas

By Tim Nicholas

Mississippi Baptists have the only state convention with increases from 1978 to 1979 in every area reported through the Uniform Church Letter.

Analysis of reports from 1,915 cooperating churches in Mississippi show gains in number of churches, total membership, baptisms, enrollment in Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Church Training, Woman's Missionary Union, Brotherhood, and Music.

Increases were also reported in mission gifts, total gifts, and value of church property.

With 15,801 baptisms for 1979, as compared to 13,583 for 1978 and drops each year since 1975, Mississippi re-

ported the second highest percentage increase among Southern Baptist state conventions. Baptisms in Mississippi were up 16.3 percent, only passed by Ohio with 17 percent.

Roy Cullum, state evangelism director, said he believed that the 1979 Good News Mississippi campaign did not directly contribute to the increase, "but what we did do to get ready for Good News Mississippi did," he said. He noted the state had more lay witness training events and thorough, careful planning for revivals on the association and church levels. "The shock value" of going down several years in a row, said Cullum, "got our people concerned."

Chester Vaughn, program director

for Mississippi Baptists, said that most of the "old line" Southern states lost ground in Sunday School and Church Training enrollments. Mississippi increased from 332,263 to 336,807 in Sunday School and increased from 126,704 to 128,515 in Church Training.

For Sunday School, the enrollment gain was 4,344, with only Texas and Louisiana gaining more with 7,839 and 5,642 respectively.

Bryant Cummings, Mississippi's Sunday School director, said the past 24 months have shown "an absolute priority of our department to growth." This growth emphasis included a number of growth conferences that attracted a total of 2,500 persons.

Vaughn said the Five Fabulous Sundays promotion was also a factor. The 1979 version tallied 6,983 enrolled in

(Continued on page 3)

Youth Week At Gulfshore



Justus Upton of Broadmoor Church, Jackson, waves his puppet while Johnny Hyde, religious dramatist, Parkway Church, Jackson, gives pointers to puppeteers in puppet workshop (More Photos on page 2)

Correction

The amendment to "church plan" legislation which is expected to allow denominational agencies to continue participation in church annuity plans, is now being referred to the Senate floor for further action.

Last week's Baptist Record inadvertently noted that the amendment is "not" being referred, when the correct word was "now."

The "Talmadge Church Plan Amendment," an addendum to the "multi-employer" pension bill S. 1076, encompasses the objectives of the Baptist Annuity Board and the Church Alliance for Clarification of ERISA.

According to the Annuity Board, this legislation would significantly reduce government in-

(Continued on page 2)

Baptist Hunger Work Now More Than A "Rumbling"

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Four Southern Baptist Convention agencies have joined forces to introduce a continuing plan to help the 13.4 million Southern Baptists combat world hunger.

Supported by the Foreign Mission, Home Mission and Sunday School Boards and coordinated by the Christian Life Commission, the plan includes the distribution of 40,000 world hunger packets. One packet will be sent to each Southern Baptist pastor and minister of education and to denominational leaders.

Foy Valentine, executive director of the Christian Life Commission, said

the packet is designed to help Southern Baptists develop a concerted and unified response to world hunger.

"Southern Baptist response to world hunger has increased dramatically since the 1970s," he said. "Sensitivity to hunger has been growing and our gifts for hunger through the Foreign and Home Mission Boards have substantially increased."

Southern Baptist gifts to world hunger jumped from \$81,000 in 1971 to more than \$3,000,000 in 1979.

"But the hunger crisis has not abated and millions are still suffering from and dying from starvation," Valentine said. "Our progress has been small in the face of the great moral challenge of world hunger."

"We hope the plans outlined in the world hunger packet will help pastors, educational directors, and denominational workers to lead their churches in an aggressive and continuing response to world hunger," he said.

Building on the observance of World Hunger Day, set on the denominational calendar by the SBC for Aug. 6, 1980, the plan offers suggestions for a church-wide prayer service, world hunger sermons, ways to witness through hunger relief, and a seven-point plan of action for individual church members.

David Sapp, director of organization for the Christian Life Commission and coordinator of the world hunger project, said one of the primary reasons many Southern Baptists have not given adequate response to world hunger is the common feeling that one person can do very little about such an enormous problem.

"The problem is not that we do not care," Sapp explained. "It's that we do not accept responsibility. The task of ending hunger often seems to belong to someone else and to be beyond our meager ability," he said.

"The world hunger kit and the observance of World Hunger Day will provide very specific ways that every Southern Baptist can help to make a difference in the fight against world hunger," Sapp said.

Guidelines designed by the four Southern Baptist Convention agencies call for individuals to respond by praying about hunger, giving through the Foreign and Home Mission Boards to help the hungry, engaging in hunger education activities, exercising responsible Christian citizenship on behalf of the hungry, and becoming involved with hungry persons in the community.

(Continued on page 3)

Tennessee May Aid In Upper Volta Work

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Tennessee Baptists' hunger committee is recommending that they be the first Baptist state convention to cooperate with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in a "total impact" project covering evangelism, relief and development.

If the site is approved by convention messengers this fall, the Tennessee Baptist Convention will link with the Foreign Mission Board in carrying out a project in the Sandwabo area of Upper Volta, a country in Africa's Sahel region often threatened by drought.

Starting later this fall, they plan to send 50 to 60 volunteers a year to six villages in the area around Tenkodogo, Southern Baptists' newest mission station in Upper Volta. Although the project may include building a dam to deal with the area's chronic water problems, it will also include evangelism, agricultural work, school and church construction, and training in nutrition, public health, and literacy.

The world hunger committee of Tennessee Baptists approved Upper Volta as the project site after a recent fact-finding trip by committee chairman Earl C. Davis, pastor of First Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., and John R. Cheyne, the Foreign Mission Board's associate consultant for relief ministries.

The Tennessee convention appointed the committee in 1978, Davis said, based on an emotional response to the hunger crisis. Charged with find-

ing a way Tennessee Baptists could become involved in solving the hunger problem, the group decided to work with the underlying causes of hunger through the Foreign Mission Board.

The Tennessee convention has committed \$500,000 for the project and the Foreign Mission Board will be asked in June to allocate \$432,000 for initiating the project, said John E. Mills, the board's secretary for West Africa. Part of the board's appropriation, he said, will be replaced by the Tennessee convention.

In addition, Providence Baptist Church, Charlotte, N.C., has already dedicated \$20,000 to support a volunteer agriculturalist to be chosen by the board for the area. Henry Crouch, pastor of the church, is a member of the Foreign Mission Board.

By using volunteers, missionaries in Upper Volta expect to save \$1 million over what the project would cost if contractors were hired. They also expect to reap the extra benefits of the project's evangelistic phase.

The fact that the churches already in the area were started by earlier relief efforts shows what can be done when relief is tied with evangelism, said Mills. There are 19 preaching points in the area, but only three preachers. Population in the rural area totals just over 4,000.

Southern Baptists helped deliver 6,100 metric tons of grain in Upper Volta in 1978 after drought and famine brought the country to the attention of the world.

(Continued on page 3)



The sign tells the story.

(Clyde Williams Photo)

Watch This Space For Church Growth

There are several ways for a church to begin. A small group of Christians can get together for Bible study and grow into needing formal organization as a church. A "church planter" can enter an unevangelized area and gather people into Bible study, later organizing a church. And the third way

is to purchase a plot of ground in an area that is being developed so that any future congregation will have facilities already at their disposal, eliminating any immediate debilitating financial needs.

This third way is the one chosen for a tract of land and a mobile chapel in Lamar County that may someday house a Southern Baptist congregation. No congregation exists yet, but Baptists in Lamar County are planning for one.

The chapel is owned by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board and is used for just such purposes. It comes to its present site on Old Sumerall Road (4th Street Extension) from Okahola Baptist Church in South Lamar County.

Okahola, just 24 months earlier had been the recipient of the chapel. Now the church has just dedicated its new church building. Jim Stagg is pastor. Okahola donated exterior fixtures.

The land is owned by the Lamar Association which bought 15 acres in the middle of a 580 acre tract being developed for housing. Half of that 15 acres will be deeded to the church that (Continued on page 7)

House Panel Will Hold

School Prayer Hearings

By Stan Haste

WASHINGTON (BP) — A congressional subcommittee will begin hearings in July on a proposal to remove the subject of prayer in public schools from the jurisdiction of federal courts, including the U. S. Supreme Court, Baptist Press has learned.

Reliable sources report that U. S. Rep. Robert W. Kastenmeier, D-Wis., chairman of the House Subcommittee on Courts, Civil Liberties and the Administration of Justice, told his colleagues on the panel that he will announce the hearings soon.

Kastenmeier, who opposes the removal of the school prayer controversy from federal courts, has kept the proposal, S.450, bottled up for

nearly a year and a half. Another key House opponent is Peter W. Rodino, Jr., Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, the parent panel to Kastenmeier's subcommittee.

Kastenmeier's hearings will likely take some of the steam out of the feverish efforts in the House to discharge the subcommittee from its jurisdiction over the bill and bring it directly to the floor for a vote, according to John W. Baker, general counsel of the Baptist Joint Committee Public Affairs.

Led by Rep. Philip M. Crane, R-Ill., the discharge petition effort has gathered momentum in recent weeks, with the latest reliable count of names on the list at 177. To succeed, the discharge petition must be signed by 218 members of the House.

Some congressmen have signed the petition, Baker believes, because they feel the sub-committee should hold hearings on the issue.

Acting in April 1979, the U.S. Senate approved the measure as an amendment to a bill dealing with Supreme Court jurisdiction after Senate Majority Leader Robert C. Byrd, D-W.Va., had it removed from another bill creating the new Department of Education.

Byrd's deft parliamentary move both insured Senate passage of the Department of Education bill and at-

tached the jurisdiction amendment to a lesser measure. It seemed to spell the end of the latest effort by Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., to circumvent the Supreme Court's landmark 1962 and 1963 decisions forbidding state-sponsored prayer and Bible reading in public schools.

Helms, like Byrd, a Baptist, has long led the fight in Congress to reverse those rulings. In previous sessions of Congress, he sought unsuccessfully an amendment to the Constitution allowing "voluntary" prayer in public schools.

But supporters of the high court decisions have pointed out that the disputed rulings, decided by 8 to 1 and 9 to 0 margins, did not forbid voluntary prayer in schools, says the Washington-based Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

The Southern Baptist Convention passed a new resolution on the subject at its recent St. Louis session, calling on Congress to resist all efforts to reverse the effect of the high court rulings.

In addition, the general board of the American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A. passed an emergency resolution in mid-June supporting the Supreme Court decisions and opposing "any attempt through legislation or other means to circumvent" those rulings.

Peace Gun Takes Aim At Chinese Republic

By C. E. Bryant

WASHINGTON (BP) — The People's Republic of China has invited Brother's Brother Foundation, an interfaith medical group at Pittsburgh, Pa., to come to China to instruct Chinese health workers in the use of modern jet immunization techniques.

Robert A. Hingson, a Baptist deacon and founder-director of the BBF, made that announcement at the offices of the Baptist World Alliance which sponsored his round-the-world medical survey in 1968 and has helped finance immunization projects on four continents since that time.

Hingson and his colleague Thomas Welty toured China April 26-May 13, studying Chinese medicine and sharing details of preventive medicine programs. They demonstrated jet immunization techniques, and presented the Chinese health ministry with six immunization injectors as a gift from the Baptist World Alliance.

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(Continued on page 3)

especially children subject to contagious diseases.

"They have their own vaccines and have made good progress in the field of preventive medicine," he said.

"They are eager to add the peace gun to their arsenal, because it is capable of injecting vaccines into the flesh at a rate of 3,000 an hour. This is more than enough speed to inject every person in a fast walking line, and will be a big step forward in reaching China's large population."

Since 1977, Brother's Brother has

(Continued on page 2)

State Education Commission Elects Billy Thamnes Chairman

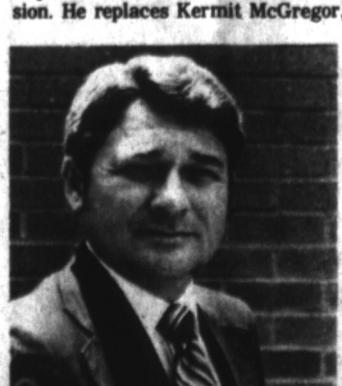
Billy Thamnes, president of Copiah Lincoln Junior Colleges with campuses at Wesson and Natchez, has been elected chairman of the Mississippi Baptist Christian Education Commission. He replaces Kermit McGregor,

McGregor, the chairman for the past two years, suffered a heart attack some months back and has since undergone open heart surgery. He is pastor of Morrison Heights Baptist Church in Clinton and also serves on the Board of Trustees of Midwestern Seminary, in Kansas City.

Thamnes had been vice-chairman of the commission. The commission voted to finish the year without selecting a new vice-chairman. Fred Fowler, pastor of Southside Baptist Church, Jackson, is the secretary.

During its meeting the commission heard a report from E. Harold Fisher, president of Blue Mountain College, that there is a large enrollment, 197, for the summer session there. The projection for the fall looks good, Fisher indicated. He noted a need of \$30,000 for repairs on campus buildings.

The commission voted to meet again on July 28 to hear the report of the Southern Baptist Education Commission on Clarke College.



Thamnes

New Life Given Patent In Supreme Court Ruling

WASHINGTON (BP) — The U. S. Supreme Court ruled here June 16 that federal patent laws extend to human-made living organisms.

By a 5-4 vote, the high court held that General Electric Co. scientist Ananda M. Chakrabarty's laboratory creation of a form of bacteria designed to break up oil spills is protected by patent laws dating to 1790.

Neither the majority opinion, written by Chief Justice Warren E. Burger, nor a dissent filed by senior Justice William J. Brennan Jr. addressed the bioethical issues involved in laboratory-created life forms.

Referring to applicable patent law, Burger said the court set out simply to

determine whether Chakrabarty's microorganism constituted a "manufacture" or "composition of matter." The law declares that "whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter . . . may obtain a patent."

Beyond that, Burger went on, courts are "without competence" to deal with the bioethical implications of Chakrabarty's discovery.

"Whatever their validity," the chief justice declared, "the contentions now pressed on us should be addressed to the political branches of the government, the Congress and the executive, and not to the courts."



Don Lum, minister of youth and activities, First Church, Columbia, leads seminars on "What We Believe." Lum explained the general beliefs of Southern Baptists.



Jennifer Orr of Zion Church, Pontotoc, is given "the brush" by Brenda Lee, also of Zion during a Christian charm course led by Amy Ashley, a student in deaf education at University of Southern Mississippi.



Softball games throughout the afternoons provided fun and perspiration.

Youth Week At Gulfshore

Over the summer, more than 3,000 teenagers will have participated in one of the youth weeks. These pictures portray typical activities.

Tim Nicholas Photos



Jim Futrell, pastor of First Church, Amory, leads in Bible study.



Doug Day, minister of education, First Church, Starkville, positions actors in skit during drama workshop.

Taylor, Freeman Committed To Being 'Unifiers' in SBC

By Toby Drury

DALLAS (BP) — The new vice presidents of the Southern Baptist Convention expressed the same sentiments after a few days of reflection on their recent elections in St. Louis — surprise that the convention chose them and a common commitment to being a unifying influence.

Evangelist Jack R. Taylor of Fort Worth was elected first vice president, winning out over six other nominees. And the man he beat in the runoff, C. Wade Freeman of Dallas, former longtime director of evangelism for Texas Baptists, was elected second vice president, topping a field of 12 for that post.

Taylor said in Dallas, where he was leading a meeting at Calvary Hill Baptist Church, Mesquite, that the response to his election had been "surprise and pleasure" on his part and that he had been congratulated from all quarters.

"I was somewhat surprised," he said. "Not often has an evangelist even been considered for the office."

He wasn't running for the office, he

explained, and didn't consent to his nomination by William A. Cook of Oklahoma until Monday afternoon before the Tuesday night election. Before giving Cook the go-ahead, Taylor had spoken to the Pastors' Conference urging "prayer, not politicking" and pointing out Southern Baptists can disagree and still love each other.

"I hope this can be a year of unifying, of bridge building," he said. "We need to major on relationships. If we are saved persons, we may be apart on doctrines and non-essentials to salvation, but we ought to seek for points of fellowship and agreement and start there instead of at our differences."

Taylor said he felt the convention elections — his and Freeman's and that of Bailey Smith of Oklahoma as president — had the "flavor" of bridge building and developing of relationships, and he hopes to foster that feeling.

Taylor was pastor of Castle Hills Baptist Church, San Antonio, for 17 years, 1957-74, building that congregation from 100 members to more than 4,000. In 1974 he formed Dimensions in

Christian Living and moved to Fort Worth. He now leads some 40 Christian life and Bible conferences and Christian growth seminars a year.

Taylor is a native of Wheeler County and is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He was pastor of New Hope Baptist Church Number 3 near Ranger, Texas, before moving to San Antonio.

He is seeing signs of a spiritual awakening in America, he said, in response to "more and more desperation to see God really at work. People want to cease business as usual and get on with business as it ought to be."

He, too, hopes to be a unifying influence, "because I don't want to see a two-party system develop in the convention."

"I have never seen anything like it," Freeman, a member of First Baptist Church, Dallas, said. "I see the possibility of great men who have been leaders of our denomination being at cross purposes with each other."

"Baptists will always have their differences," he said. "We have never been accused of being unanimous on very many things, but we have not had differences that separated us. I weep when I think of the possibility of it."

Freeman is not a fisherman, he said, but his friends who are tell him that when a lake "turns over" the fish don't bite. The turmoil in the convention over inerrancy of the Bible, he said, is comparable to the "lake turning over" and he fears people will not be won to Christ.

"I am afraid the fish aren't going to bite," he said. "The energy of Bold Mission Thrust has been completely sapped over the last two years because of this disrupting force that has crept in."

The answer, he feels, is to refocus

the convention on its original purpose: to treat all baptists as equals.

WASHINGTON (EP) — The following appeared in a recent issue of Rep. Paul Simon's (D-Ill.) weekly newsletter, P.S./Washington:

"Various organizations give ratings to members of Congress and members of the state legislature, and frequently the ratings are totally meaningless . . . (An) example of the problem is a rating by 'The Christian Voice' on moral issues. Their 'moral issues' are items like whether a member voted for or against creating a Department of Education, 'no' being the morally correct vote according to them . . ."

"My total on their list — out of a possible score of 100 — is zero. A Methodist minister in Congress, Rep.

Robert Edgar, got 8 percent; Rep. John Buchanan of Alabama, a Baptist minister, got only 19 percent; and Rep. Robert Drinan of Massachusetts, a Catholic priest, got a moral rating of zero. While Rep. Richard Kelly of Florida, the member who has admitted taking \$25,000 in the Abscam scandal, got a moral rating of 100 percent."

"I respect and understand those who disagree with stands I take. Sometimes I have to struggle within myself before taking a position. But I have little sympathy for those who equate their position with God's — who in a simplistic and non-scriptural way confuse both theology and politics."

Baptists And Politics To Mix In Special Way

Motor City Southern Baptists plan to help throw out the welcome mat when delegates from across the country gather for the Republican Convention Detroit July 14-17.

Central points of hospitality will be a booth at the convention headquarters and a downtown mission center, where volunteers will provide a variety of services to the visitors, explained Larry Martin, director of missions for Greater Detroit Baptist Association.

The booth will be in slot B-13 on the third level of the Plaza Hotel in Renaissance Center — a hub of activity for some 20,000 delegates expected to attend the convention, Martin said.

The only Christian booth among more than 80 entries, it will open Saturday, July 12, at noon, he said.

Volunteers will sell Bibles, New Testaments and message buttons and give away portions of scripture. They also will give delegates information about churches of various denominations in the area and provide free transportation to Southern Baptist churches on Sunday.

"Contact persons" will mingle with crowds in the headquarters and witness in the course of natural conversa-

tions.

Southern Baptist delegates who attend the convention may contact Detroit Southern Baptists by calling (313) 961-7780.

Great Spirit, help me never to judge another until I have walked in his moccasins for two weeks. — Sioux Indian Prayer

This is only

the

beginning . . .

Clarke



College

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Faith Prevails Despite Tragedy In Daingerfield

By Jerilynn W. Armstrong

DAINGERFIELD, Texas (BP) — Funeral wreaths adorned doorways and flags waved in silent tribute as this East Texas steel mill town shut down "in memory of friends and loved ones."

Five funerals were held June 25 and 26 for the people who died Sunday, June 22, when Alvin Lee King III burst into First Baptist Church of Daingerfield, Texas, and sprayed the congregation with bullets.

Mary Regina Linam was buried Tuesday morning, June 25, in DeKalb, Texas, amidst 700 friends and family. The seven-year-old girl was killed instantly when one of King's bullets struck her in the back of the head.

Just three weeks before, Gina had professed her faith in Jesus Christ to Virgil Fielden, associate pastor at the Daingerfield church, and was awaiting her baptism.

"Her faith is the only way I can stand

here and offer you comfort," Fielden told the mourners.

Services for Thelma Richardson, a 78-year-old widow, were conducted in the Daingerfield church concurrently with Gina Linam's funeral in DeKalb.

That afternoon about one-third of the town's residents filled the sanctuary and the basement of First Baptist Church to pay their last respects to Kenneth Truitt, 50, the father of four and grandfather of six.

"Many reporters have asked me if this incident has altered my faith," Norman Crisp, pastor of the church, told the mourners. "My answer is that this has increased my faith in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ who is sufficient for all our needs."

"This tragedy has also increased my faith in people and our local churches as all have responded to our every need and joined us in prayer for our loved ones," Crisp said.

Crisp believes that the families and

church will recover from this tragic event stronger than before. "I have been impressed with the courage of the families and believe that in their common sorrow they will find the strength to sustain them."

"As a Christian I accept that God permitted this to happen for reasons known only to him but our church is claiming God's presence and comfort and he is fulfilling his promises," he said.

Fielden told the Truitt family that two months ago Ken Truitt came up to him with tears streaming down his face and said, "How come a big, hulking man like me rededicated his life in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ who is sufficient for all our needs?"

"I assured him that he didn't need to walk down the aisle because God was aware of his rededication," Fielden said.

Jim Powell, a former pastor at First Baptist Church and now the assistant to the president at Dallas Baptist College, gave the message, using the Luke 23 passage of the thief on the cross.

"Truitt was a genuine martyr just like any martyr of the New Testament," Powell added. "There was a popular song a couple of months back called 'Where Are All the Heroes?' I'll tell you where they are. They're in small communities like this one sitting on church pews."

Truitt and James Y. (Red) McDaniel were the two men who wrestled King out of the building, losing their lives in the struggle.

"These two men are our heroes who in a moment of danger had no thought for their own safety as they used their bodies as shields to protect others and died in the effort," Powell said.

Gene Gandy, 49, was the last of the four victims buried on June 25. McDaniel's services were June 26 in the afternoon. Powell said at Gandy's funeral that the only way he made it through three grueling funerals in one day was that "Gene Gandy, like the others, had accepted the Lord. If he hadn't, this would be a very dark time."

Powell told the townspeople attending the funeral services that the most difficult test of their Christian faith would be "where you put King in your mind and heart and life and how you handle your words and actions toward this man."

King, who invaded the congregation armed with automatic weapons and dressed in full battle gear, is recovering from a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head. He is in John Sealy Hospital in Galveston, Texas.

(Jerilynn Armstrong, a writer for the Texas Baptist public relations department, Dallas, traveled to Daingerfield, Texas, to cover the funerals of the victims of the June 22 slaying at First Baptist Church there.)

State Missions

(Continued from page 1)

ing aid, \$35,000 for the disaster task force, and \$60,000 for Central Hills Baptist Retreat.

Theme of this year's offering, which is promoted by the Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union, is "When Believers Pray, Life Changes in Mississippi."



Pictured left to right are Libby Lancaster, Rene' Gilbert, Philip McWilliams, Mary Flynn, and Bobbie Bryant.

Statistics Chart Growth

(Continued from page 1)

Mississippi Sunday Schools in a five week period.

Brotherhood rose from 22,085 to 23,521. Church music enrollment increased to 87,804 from 84,896 in 1978. And Woman's Missionary Union gained to 51,001 from 50,943.

Vaughn said he believed that with the increase of working women "a slight increase is a plus within itself."

He said the increasing involvement of men in missions reflects the growth in Brotherhood, and churches are continuing to expand in music programs.

Vacation Bible School enrollment, which often feeds new members into Sunday School, rose from 139,290 to 143,309.

In the financial area, the 1,915 reporting churches received \$105,764,500 from contributors, with \$18,081,163 of

that tagged for various mission gifts.

The 1978 figures were \$92,680,318, with \$15,889,656 to missions.

Value of church property rose from \$387,362,603 in 1978 to \$435,793,524 in 1979.

Vaughn pointed to the fact that Mississippi Baptists earned more study course awards than all but two state conventions.

That indicator of leadership training, plus a "good spirit of cooperation among associations," said Vaughn, and that the convention board's field staff is out on the field an increased amount of time, all add up to helping the statistics sound encouraging.

McWilliams is working at Percy Quin State Park, assigned to Glen Williams, director of missions for Pike Association. He is doing campfire and campground service ministries, plus coordinating local volunteer workers.

Misses Gilbert and Lancaster are at two campgrounds in Franklin County, assigned to William Wright, pastor of Bude Baptist Church.

Local room and board is taken care of by local supervisors. The HMB pays its summer missionaries \$40 per week. The state convention board provided orientation.

Ramer Named To Tennessee Hospital Post

(Continued from page 1)

According to Sapp, the plan encourages Southern Baptists to give their gifts to world hunger through their local churches.

"All that a church member needs to do is place the gift in an envelope and write 'hunger' on the outside and drop it in the offering plate," Sapp explained. "The church will then channel that offering through the state convention for hunger relief."

"Offerings may be designated by the individual for the hunger relief fund of either the Foreign Mission Board or the Home Mission Board or a percentage may be given to each," Sapp explained. "If the individual does not specify where the gift is to go, this decision may be made by the church or the state convention," he said.

"Whatever method is used, every penny of the contribution will actually go to the hungry," Sapp stressed.

Although distribution of the world hunger kit is limited to the 40,000 already mailed, the agencies are encouraging churches to reproduce the materials for wider distribution to church members.

Needed: Needlepointers

Earl Kelly, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, has asked Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union to make a large (6½ by 14 ft.) historical needlepoint hanging for the Baptist Building. The Historical Commission is working with WMU in the selection of the historical items to be included.

Mrs. Robert Dent, state WMU President has appointed the following committee: Mrs. Karl Hatten, Vicksburg; Mrs. W. F. Sistrunk, Jackson; Mrs. Tim Taylor, Crystal Springs; Mrs. Robert Smira, Jackson; Ethel McKeithen and Waudine Storey as consultants with Mrs. Dent and Marjean Patterson ex officio members. The chairman of the committee is Edwin Robinson.

Do not be modest! If you are a good needlepointer and could assist with this project, please let WMU know. The committee will select those who will do the needlepoint squares. The kits will be ready in March or April 1981. The work will need to be completed by July 1981.

The Laurel session will be at First Baptist Church, Aug. 4. The Grenada meeting will be at First Baptist Church, Aug. 5.

Polly Morrow, preschool director, Van Winkle Church, Jackson, is program coordinator.

Other program personnel include Wilma Lowe, consultant in kindergarten-day care work, Jackson; Merle Crompton, director, day care and kindergarten program, Alta Woods Church, Jackson; and Judy Magill, preschool director, Morrison Heights Church, Clinton.

Registration begins at 9 for each session with adjournment at 3. For reservations, write Leon Emery, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 3
Thursday, July 3, 1980

Five Students Are HMB Missionaries

Mississippi has five student summer missionaries appointed by the Home Mission Board.

They are Bobbie Bryant, of Henrietta, Okla., a student at East Central University, Ada, Okla.; Mary Flynn, of Commerce, Tex., a student at East Texas State University, Commerce; Philip McWilliams, of Shelbina, Mo., a student at University of Missouri, Columbia; Rene' Gilbert, of Tulsa, Okla., a student at Howard Payne University, Brownwood, Tex.; and Libby Lancaster, of Greer, S.C., a student at Baptist College at Charleston.

Misses Bryant and Flynn are working with M. C. Johnson, director of missions for Holmes, Leflore and Humphreys counties. They are doing a variety of ministries particularly around the Parchman area, including survey, backyard Bible clubs, and Vacation Bible Schools.

McWilliams is working at Percy Quin State Park, assigned to Glen Williams, director of missions for Pike Association. He is doing campfire and campground service ministries, plus coordinating local volunteer workers.

Misses Gilbert and Lancaster are at two campgrounds in Franklin County, assigned to William Wright, pastor of Bude Baptist Church.

Local room and board is taken care of by local supervisors. The HMB pays its summer missionaries \$40 per week. The state convention board provided orientation.

Record Moved To Tennessee Hospital Post

Jim Henry

Baptist Record, June 19, reported the new president of the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference, Jim Henry, as being pastor of First Baptist Church, Pensacola, Fla. Well, the state was right. However, he is pastor of First Baptist Church, Orlando, not Pensacola. Actually, Brian Harbour is pastor of the other church.

Kansas City, Kansas — Sven Ohm, foreign mission secretary of the Baptist Union of Sweden, was awarded the doctor of divinity degree May 23 by the Central Baptist Theological Seminary here. Earlier at a luncheon to honor him, Ohm addressed the seminary body on "A Church in Global Ministry."



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BR2

Five Mississippians Featured At WMU Conference

Five Mississippians will be featured at the Woman's Missionary Union Conference, August 2-8 at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Ridgecrest, North Carolina.

Dolton and Martha Haggan will give conference-goers an update on their work with Choctaw Indians in the Philadelphia, Mississippi area. They have worked there since 1966.

Leading conferences will be three state staff members from the Mississippi WMU office. They are Ethel McKeithen, Baptist Women Consultant, Marilyn Hopkins, Baptist Young Women Consultant, and Waudine Storey, Girls in Action/Mission Friends Consultant.

At First, Panama City

Mississippians Will Lead Seminar For Single Adults

The First Baptist Church of Panama City, Florida, will be hosting a seminar for single adults July 11-13, according to the church's minister to single adults, Steve Odorn.

Odom, a native Mississippian, announced the theme of the three-day workshop to be, "The Past I Inherit—The Future I Create."

Guiding the workshop will be Buddy Mathis of Pascagoula. Mathis has completed ten years in evangelism. Recently he expanded his ministry to include church seminars presented from a Christian perspective on the expansion of happiness, overcoming stress, and unfolding God-given human potential. A graduate of Mississippi College and the University of Southern Mississippi Graduate School

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Editorials

Independence Day . . .

Freedom from sin is most pressing

Freedom has become a strange concept as we contemplate the weekend of Independence Day. In the United States we find ourselves almost at the mercy of the Internal Revenue Service and other bureaucratic agencies; and overseas more than 50 of our citizens have been captives of a foreign country for more than seven months, and we don't know what to do about it.

We are almost afraid to do anything for fear the lives of the hostages (captives) will be lost or that we will set off World War III to be fought on a nuclear basis.

All over the world people continue to fight for freedom, yet there are more people who are not living in freedom than who are. So we approach our Independence Day with a spirit of pessimism, and indeed there is little about

which to be optimistic.

Yet we cannot continue to live under a cloud of pessimism. If for no other reason, to do so is contrary to the gospel that we preach. As Christians and as Southern Baptists we may not be able to free anyone politically or to help anyone escape from the influence of a bureaucratic agency; but we can help anyone who will listen escape from the grasp of sin, and that is a stranglehold much more deadly than political captivity or bureaucracy.

In fact, perhaps at no time have people, burdened down as they are by loss of freedom in many areas, been more anxious than right now to hear the good news of the possibility of escape from the shackles of sin.

In these days when Freedom seems to be such an elusive factor, we must be

about the task of showing the way to freedom from the most terrible bondage of all — sin. We have made great plans for doing just that through our Bold Mission Thrust. Surely we will not be deterred in the task by pessimism over political problems.

The mandate to witness and the right of the lost to expect us to witness continue regardless of the circumstances. To fail to witness is not an option.

And surely on Independence Day we would pledge to our nation our best as we dedicate ourselves to helping maintain its strength, its character, and its freedom.

Along with our freedom from the clutches of sin we, here in the United States, also must be appreciative of

our political and religious freedom. We can worship in whatever way we want to wherever we want to and whenever we want to. This is surely not the case all over the world. And in spite of the tentacles of IRS, we are politically free. We must keep it that way, and the way to keep our nation free is to support it and to participate in its affairs.

Failure to go the polls because we don't like the candidates is not the answer. If we don't like what or who we are voting for, we have the freedom to work to have selections more to our liking.

It is our country, and it is going to be only as strong and as worthwhile as we make it. Involvement is a big effort, but it is the only way to prosper in a democracy.

Immediate attention . . .

Talmadge amendment is needed

Legislation now pending in the United States Senate will vitally affect pension plans for many employees of Southern Baptist agencies.

According to Darold Morgan, president of the Southern Baptist Annuity Board, employees of church agencies such as hospitals, schools, children's homes, and "practically all other denominational workers outside of local church ministries" could lose the right

Strange things . . .

An embarrassing error

The Baptist Record tries to keep up as nearly as possible with the discussions on inaccuracy, but the Record itself can lay no claim for such on its own. Two errors of recent days need to be corrected.

The first was in the issue of June 5 in a story furnished by Evangelical Press. It mentioned Lowes Corp. as being one of the firms most involved in

advertising in pornographic publications. The firm should have been Loew's Theatre Corp. Note the difference in spelling. The advertiser surely was not the Low's Lumber and Hardware company.

The second was in the issue of June 5 in a story furnished by Evangelical Press. It mentioned Lowes Corp. as being one of the firms most involved in

contacted immediately concerning the viewpoints of those who are interested.

Because it is a matter involving the continued participation of denominational workers only, perhaps those on church staffs would feel little inclination to contact congressmen. The problem goes deeper than that, however. One facet is that there will be a continued need to provide annuity programs for denominational workers even if this amendment fails. There-

fore the entire annuity structure will be affected. The second facet is that by seeking to divide annuity programs between local churches and agencies of local churches the government has placed itself in the position, again, of trying to define a church. This, most Baptists feel, the government is not knowledgeable enough to do nor should it feel it is legally able to do.

The matter needs immediate attention.

tion. Therefore, this word needs to be provided.

The other matter is perhaps the most embarrassing error of my years in journalism; though there have been many mistakes. Somewhere a story two years old concerning a class reunion Clarke College got into last week's issue. We will never know how it hap-

pened. We know it shouldn't have happened. We know also that it was not the fault of the public relations office at Clarke College.

This is one that cannot be justified. We can only say we're sorry and dig in a little deeper to try to keep such strange things from happening. — DTM

Guest Opinion . . .

Bold missions for Iranians —

a new perspective

By R. Raymond Lloyd
Minister, First Baptist Church
Starkville, Mississippi 39759

Recently the Mississippi State Legislature passed, and the governor signed, an appropriations bill (Senate Bill No. 2977) which contained a section (Section 10) dealing with non-resident student tuition fees for those from countries against whom the United States of America has economic sanctions. While not specifically naming any country, it does apply particularly to the Iranian students. As a pastor in a university community, and thus interested in students in general and international students in particular, and as pastor of a congregation which is ministering to international students in a wide variety of ways, it appears that at best this bill is very questionable on both humanitarian and legal grounds.

Section 10 of the Bill reads, in part, as follows:

A nonresident student tuition fee of \$4,000 shall be paid by any student who is a nonimmigrant alien

from a nation not having diplomatic relations with the United States of America and against whom the United States of America has economic sanctions in effect at the time of registration of such student.

Such a tuition cost would make it necessary for most, if not all, Iranian students to withdraw from the state supported schools of Mississippi. The amount of \$4,000 appears to be payable per registration period, or \$4,000 for each semester, plus the same amount for each session of summer school, in addition to regular fees. This is effective with the second session of summer school.

Likewise the Iranian students, of whom there are approximately 435 in the state universities of Mississippi, would lose all assistantships and scholarships that come from state funds.

Many of the students are graduate students lacking only a few hours, some as little as 1 or 2, of completing their program of study. Much credit in a graduate program is non-transferable, and therefore lost, assuming a student cannot pay the fees.

The United States government has already established a policy whereby no Iranian visas will be renewed. This will permit a student to complete his work and then return to his country.

Why should the innocent be further punished when there is already in effect a plan to curtail their enrollment in our universities, yet allow them to complete their course of study?

The approximately 77 Iranian students at Mississippi State University have not caused any problems. With the tension they are obviously under, their conduct has been most commendable. This has been true of almost all the Iranian students in Mississippi. To be sure, there was some problem at another state institution where a handful of students staged some anti-American activities last fall. The president of this university handled this in a prompt, forthright, manner; and that particular group of students was expelled. There appear to have been no problems on any state campus caused by Iranian students since then. The current crop of Iranian students in Mississippi does not need to be disciplined for the actions of a small

group last fall, nor for the hostile spirit of their government.

This bill, passed by the Legislature and signed by the governor, has all the earmarks of being retaliatory in nature. Every American ought to be greatly concerned, and every Christian ought to be continuous in their prayers, for the release of the 53 American hostages. This action to drive out the Iranian students can have no positive bearing on their release. In fact, retaliation of this nature only widens the breach with Iran. The American system of justice has progressed too far to revert back to the pre-Mosaic days of the Lex Talionis, an eye for an eye.

Some future leaders of the Iranian state may well be enrolled in the state universities of Mississippi today. Their attitude toward America, and toward Christianity, is going to be determined in a large measure by what happens regarding this particular issue. While we may hate and despise the hostile spirit of the Khomeini regime, he will not always be in power.

Peace platforms for tomorrow need to be built, and the faltering image of America overseas, already at a rather low ebb, needs to be rebuilt; and they need to be done by us, today!

Furthermore the churches in our university centers have a marvelous opportunity to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with all international students. Among the most responsive to the missionary spirit of the First Baptist Church of Starkville have been the Iranian students, many of whom attend the International Women's group of Woman's Missionary Union. One student recently was baptized into the fellowship of the congregation. Such probably could well be said of other churches in other university communities. Should we send them home, the opportunity to share the Gospel with them could well be gone for at least the present generation, perhaps for good, both here and there!

From the legal standpoint, there is some question, at least, of the authority of the Mississippi Legislature to establish fees. The following appears in the 1980-1981 General Catalogue of Mississippi State University, page 12, regarding published fees:

The University reserves the

right, subject to order of the Board of Trustees to raise, lower, or modify without notice any of the above fees for the 1980-1981 session.

Also, according to the Constitution of Mississippi, the Board of Trustees is the only body which can set the tuition fees. The legality of this is now being tested by others.

It appears that this is a humanitarian issue on which Christians could and should speak. Perhaps contact with the members of the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning regarding Senate Bill No. 2977, Section 10, would be appropriate, encouraging them to challenge the legality and morality of the bill. Perhaps the prayers of God's people would be of even greater value. To challenge the action of the governing body of our great state would be a courageous act, but a humanitarian, ethical, and spiritual cause is at stake. We are called upon to be "bold" in our mission efforts. Here is one small way whereby the Baptists of Mississippi can rise up and manifest bold missions so that the Gospel of Christ can keep getting through!

right, subject to order of the Board of Trustees to raise, lower, or modify without notice any of the above fees for the 1980-1981 session.

What is termed "formula grant" money is about to be written out of the Federal budget in favor of grants for more research on alcohol. For Mississippians this would mean no money for education for prevention or intervention such as is now being done in counseling and other help through the Mental Health centers, Driver's Education classes, etc. There are no state funds available for this type of service.

Most all citizens are interested in cutting federal expenses, but the proposals being made in Congress would not reduce the budget but transfer the funds to research instead of helping people now. No doubt some more research in alcohol effects would be helpful, but what we need more is to apply what we already know.

Until we can persuade our state legislators to act in this regard, we



Faces And Places

By Anne Wimbush McWilliams

The Land Of The Free

One kid wrote — or so they said on a recent TV program — "I pledge a legion to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one naked individual, under God, with liver tea and justice for all."

Sunday at church we pledged allegiance to the flag. Chills bumps popped up on my arms and tear drops trembled on my lashes as Bill Barnes sang "America the Beautiful" and directed the choir in "The Star-Spangled Banner": "O long may it wave o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!"

Once when I was on a small boat touring the harbor at Hong Kong, we saw a ship flying the United States flag. The sailors waved, and we cheered. I knew then what George Frisbie Hoar meant when he said, "I have seen the glories of art and architecture, and mountain and river; I have seen the sunset over the Jungfrau, and the full moon rise over Mont Blanc; but the fairest vision on which these eyes ever looked was the flag of my country in a foreign land."

This is one that cannot be justified. We can only say we're sorry and dig in a little deeper to try to keep such strange things from happening. — DTM

This flag is a symbol of our freedom. During World War II Norman Rockwell did four paintings to represent the Four Freedoms: Freedom from Want; Freedom from Fear; Freedom of Religion; Freedom of Speech. Last week I was reminded of those when a copy of one of them came in the mail. "Freedom from Want" showed an old couple serving a huge turkey to a family seated around a table.

Freedom from want. I think of all the Mississippi church dinners-on-the-ground. And I think of the promising green corn fields of Iowa. Two weeks ago I was in Des Moines for a convention of the National Federation of Press Women. Iowa, I understand, is an Indian word for "beautiful land." Gold leaf glittered on the dome of the state capital. Women, members of the Iowa Porettes, modeled suits and coats made from pigskin, dyed in varied hues and some trimmed with lamb's wool. I feasted on roast pig at banquet and picnic. "It is a beautiful land," I thought, "and a rich land."

I'm not looking through rose-colored glasses. I know America is not free from poverty, or from fear, but in comparison with many, many nations, our food basket overflows, when theirs is near to empty.

During convention sessions I heard a lot about the First Amendment, and the responsibility of the press to dispense information about it, and to protect it.

In my hotel room one afternoon I heard a noise like rocks falling on a tin roof. I rushed to the window and saw hail bouncing off cars and other objects below. Within minutes, the street looked like it was covered with snow. In the next day's newspaper, Iowans described the hail as the size of a pea, a dime, a quarter, a grape, a marble, a

walnut, a ping pong ball, an apple, an orange, a baseball, a golf ball. The actual size was relatively unimportant, but the people's right to state their opinions about it — or anything else — was vastly important.

That First Amendment says: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

Sunday's Parade carried an essay by Vice Admiral James Stockdale, who spent nearly eight years as a POW in Vietnam, several years in a 10' x 4' cell. I wish that every American would read that essay. Stockdale said he always thought that freedom was something in songs or political speeches, until the prison gates slammed shut behind him — "like many Americans today who take their freedom for granted."

He learned that human freedom is not the way of the world. "To be free to come and go, to choose your life's work, to go for the big bucks of selfless service, or to hit the road as a drifter — these are not open choices to most of the 4.5 billion souls on this planet."

This freedom, he said, is a treasure constantly labored for, a treasure that many have paid dearly to keep. Fifty-six men knowingly laid their lives on the line when they signed the Declaration of Independence. "Let's keep protecting that child of America," Stockdale said — "that freedom."

Quanta Triptak, a Thai friend of mine who lives in Jackson, is expecting a baby next month. "I'm glad my baby will be born in America," she said, "so he will be an American citizen."

I'm glad, too, Quanta. It's the most rare and precious gift you could give him.

I know these things must always be To keep a nation strong and free: One is a hearthstone bright and dear With busy, happy loved ones near. One is a ready heart and hand To love and serve and keep the land. One is a firm and beaten way To where the people go to pray.

—Author unknown

Book Review

UNDER THE GUNS IN BEIRUT by Terry Raburn (Gospel Publishing House, paper, 160 pp., \$2.50) Terry Raburn and his wife Athena, Americans, were in Beirut while civil war raged there. Their story is a thrilling one of God's protection and provision of food, shelter, and water after sources for them necessities were cut off. They were on an evangelistic mission in the Middle East; he is now a pastor in Florida.

Letters To The Editor

Alcohol Prevention Money

What is termed "formula grant" money is about to be written out of the Federal budget in favor of grants for more research on alcohol. For Mississippians this would mean no money for education for prevention or intervention such as is now being done in counseling and other help through the Mental Health centers, Driver's Education classes, etc. There are no state funds available for this type of service.

Most all citizens are interested in cutting federal expenses, but the proposals being made in Congress would not reduce the budget but transfer the funds to research instead of helping people now. No doubt some more research in alcohol effects would be helpful, but what we need more is to apply what we already know.

Until we can persuade our state legislators to act in this regard, we

must depend upon federal funds. If this money is cut off, all we will have left will be the "half-way houses" or rehabilitation centers. Mississippi tax money of 3 percent on alcohol sales goes to support rehabilitation work, but not one penny is appropriated for prevention or intervention. Congress should not divert these funds to research but keep them invested in human resources. For Mississippians, this is crucial. The matter is to be settled by about August first, so your opinion today to your congressman will be very helpful at this point.

J. Clark Hensley
Executive Director
Mississippi Baptist
Christian Action Commission

Help for Handicapped

Editor:

Thank you, Mississippi Baptists, for

your telephone calls, letters, and donation in response to my recent letter concerning needs for the mentally retarded. (This anonymous donation was given to Miss Evelyn George of the Church Training Dept.)

I only hope that through my letter the Christian people will see their responsibility in this ministry. Jesus is able to meet the needs of all people. This should be our goal also.

Please continue to pray for me as I continue to find recreation, etc., and especially for a good home established for these "special ones."

Mrs. Charles S. McInnis
404 Glen Rose Drive
Jackson, Mississippi
3

Thursday, July 8, 1988

Improve RAs Dedicate Cabin; Name Group Thomas Thurman

Improve Church, Marion County, dedicated its Royal Ambassador cabin recently, and announced that its RA chapter is to be named for Thomas Thurman, missionary to Bangladesh.

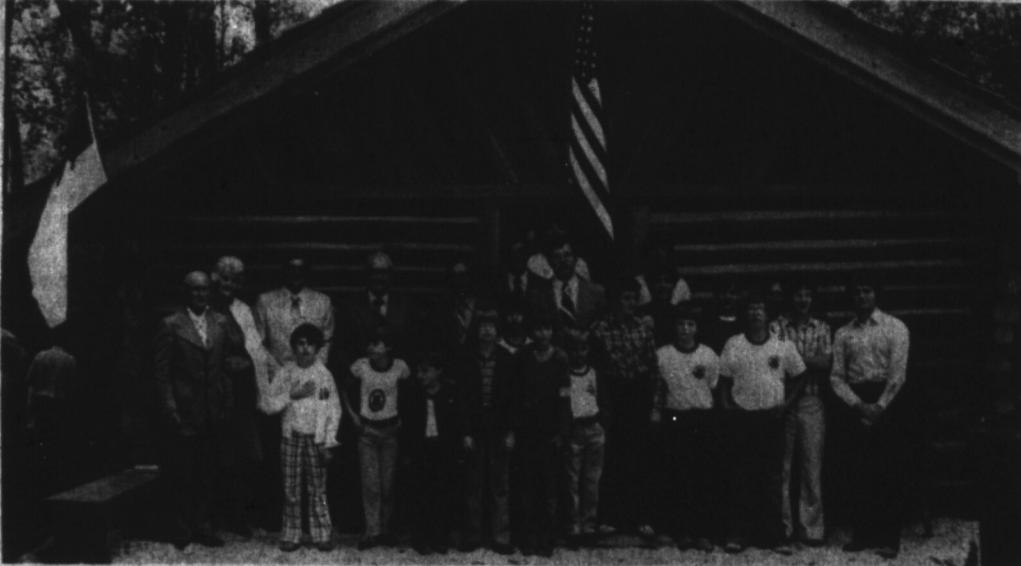
Special guests at the dedication service were Thurman's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jake Thurman; his sister, Mrs. Bev Turnage; and her son-in-law, Michael Beasley and his two children from Silver Creek.

Jim Watts and his wife, Helen Morris Watts, donated the property on which the RA cabin was built.

The building is a log cabin, built primarily of lumber from trees on the property which were cut and dressed by the RA boys, their leader, and other members of the church and community.

The cabin is located on the banks of Graves Creek behind Improve Baptist Church and is fully equipped for camping and cooking. It is to be used in all phases of the church activities.

Following an invocation by the pastor, Bob Williams, the Thomas Thurman RA Chapter led visiting RA's in repeating the RA Pledge.



RA CABIN at Improve was dedicated recently. Front row, left to right, Kenny Price, Bryan Williams, Allen Robbins, Jeffrey Morris, Todd Watts, Reuben McDowell, Kendall Morris, Alan Kendrick, Chip Griner, Ricky Bell, Chris Lamousin, Mike Morris.

Mike Morris, back row, Jake Thurman, Mrs. Jake Thurman, David Perry, George Lee, Coy Wayne Bell, Doyle Robbins, Kenneth Sauls, Bob Williams, Randy Bell, Damon Watts, Bryan Montgomery, and Mike Bass.

Revival Dates

Indian Hills (Lee): July 6-11; John G. Armistead, evangelist; Billy Erwin, in charge of music; Linda Spearman, pianist; Gus Garrett, pastor; Sunday afternoon services at 5; Monday-Fri. at 7:45 p.m.

Northwest, Meridian: July 6-11; Johnny Parks, pastor of Second, Kosciusko, evangelist; services 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; This is the seventh anniversary for the pastor and his wife, Chris C. Cornelius and Beth. There will be a noon meal fellowship July 6 in honor of this occasion.

Evergreen Church (Winston): July 6-11; Alex McGraw of Jasper, Tenn., evangelist; Mike Rogers of South Louisville, music director; services each night at 7:30; Albert McMullen, pastor.

Hillside, Crystal Springs: July 6-11; Keith Fordham, full-time evangelist from Forest Park, Ga., preaching; Hubert Greer, full-time music evangelist from Brookhaven, in charge of music; (Fordham's ministry includes his pal, Homer, ventriloquist's dummy. He uses Homer to teach Bible stories and present gospel messages for school age children and youths. Fordham also has a special program of witness training for church members.)

Rehobeth, north of Pelahatchie: July 13-18; Billy McKay of Belzoni, evangelist; Rick Hammarstrom, pastor; services at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Fairhaven Church, Olive Branch: July 9-13; services at 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. on Sunday; 7 p.m. during week; Dillard K. Lykins, pastor, preaching; Tracy Jagers, music director at First, Horn Lake, leading the music.

Mt. Zion Church (Lincoln): July 13-18; Ernest Sadler, pastor, Easthaven, Brookhaven, evangelist; Ken Brookins, minister of music, Easthaven, Brookhaven; music evangelist; services 7:30 p.m.; Mike Everett, pastor; ed. info 7-1181.

Bassfield (Jeff Davis): July 6-11; services at 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Sunday; during the week, 9 a.m. (except Monday) and 7:30 p.m.; Benny Jackson from Memphis, Tenn., evangelist; Allen G. Landers, pastor.

Corinth (Tallahatchie): July 13-18; Cooper Barton, pastor, Hollywood Church, Memphis, Tenn., evangelist; Benny Champion, music director at Corinth, in charge of music; Matthew L. Greer, pastor; services Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; during the week at 7:45 p.m.

New Salem Church (Franklin): July 13-18; Gerald Aultman, pastor Pleasant Grove, Brookhaven, evangelist; Charles Case, music evangelist; Lynn Chapman, pianist; Sunday services Sunday School 10:00 a.m., worship 11:00 a.m. with dinner on the grounds and an afternoon service at 1:30; weekday services 7:30 p.m.; Elton Barlow, supply pastor.

Mt. Pleasant Church, West: July 14-20; David Grant, pastor of Broadmoor Church, Jackson, evangelist; Benny-Joe McBride, music director in Shreveport, La., music evangelist; Craig Hartzog, pastor; services at 10:45 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

McBee Church (Lowndes): July 13-18; A. R. Kirkley of West Point, evangelist; Allen G. Landers, pastor.

Effective July 1, medical coverage for agency employees will go to a three-tiered premium structure: for employees with no dependents, with one dependent and with more than one dependent.

Before the board offered only two rates, one for the employee and another for the employee with one or more dependents. "This results in a more equitable distribution of costs," Dudley explained. He indicated generally the rate for an employee with one dependent will decrease.

Effective in October, an improvement in the agency special risk accident insurance plan will let agencies choose among five maximum amounts.

What do you do about fear, gnawing pressures, guilt, suffering, and other human experiences?

There may be no "pat" answers. But, from the experiences of Moses and God's Word in the book of Exodus, Larry Kennedy offers biblical answers to life's daily frustrations.

Dr. Larry Kennedy is pastor of the First Baptist Church in Laurel.

For inner resources of strength and faith, read—**GOD'S ANSWERS TO HUMAN DILEMMAS**

Missionary News

Byron and Dora Harbin, missionaries to Brazil, have arrived in the States for furlough and retirement, effective, Nov. 1, 1980. (address: c/o Jerry Riddell, 11505 Oak View, Austin, Texas 78759). A Texan, he was born in Caddo. The former Virgie Therrell of Mississippi, she was born in Meridian but moved to Ellisville as a teen-ager. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1944.

James and Mary Slack, missionaries to the Philippines, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Box 7480, Airmail Exchange, Manila Int'l Airport, Philippines 3120). She was born in Poplarville, Ms.

Gerald and Glenda Davis, missionaries to the Philippines, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Box 7480, Airmail Exchange, Manila Int'l Airport, Philippines 3120). She was born in Marks and grew up in Batesville.

Wayne and Florence Frederick, missionaries to the French West Indies, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Boite Postal 312, 97158 Pointe a Pitre, CEDEX, Guadeloupe). He was born near Shannon, Miss. She was born in New Orleans, La., and lived there and in Edwards, Miss., while growing up.

Virgil and Gerald Riddell, missionaries to Chile, have arrived in the

States for furlough and retirement, effective, Nov. 1, 1980. (address: c/o Jerry Riddell, 11505 Oak View, Austin, Texas 78759). A Texan, he was born in Caddo. The former Virgie Therrell of Mississippi, she was born in Meridian but moved to Ellisville as a teen-ager. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1944.

Van and Sarah Williams, missionaries to India, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: 383 Upper Palace Orchards, Bangalore 560 060, India). He was born in Columbus, Miss. The former Sarah McGlamery, she was born in Houston, Texas, and lived in Barranquilla, Colombia, where her parents were missionaries, and Ripley, Miss.

Steven and Minnie Hicks, Baptist representatives to Mexico, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: c/o Mrs. L. M. Greer, Rt. 3, Box 424, Poplarville, Miss. 39470).

Virgil and Amy Cooper, missionaries to Korea, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: c/o Florida Baptist Convention, 1230 Hendricks Ave., Jacksonville, Fla. 32207). Born in Water Valley, Miss., he also lived in Aliceville, Ala., and Vicksburg, Miss.

Others on program were Joan Remley, Todd Sumrall, Jennifer Lee, Bill Sartin, Tommy Stogner, William Morris, Pam Toney, Shane Sumrall, Justin Thomas, Janet Stogner, Chris Ingram, and Jerry Brewer.

Centerville Hears Country Sonshine

Country Sonshine, the children's choir at Crystal Springs Church, Walthall County, presented a concert at Centerville Church on Sunday night, June 22, under the leadership of Mary Jane Stogner, choir director, and Brad Johnson, minister of music.

Some selections were accompanied by guitar and tambourine, others by piano. Kathy Morris was the pianist.

Readers were Todd Sumrall, Michael Stogner, Chris Lee, Brandi Alexander, Susan Smith, Kelvin Sumrall, Christy Shappley, Chris Pigott, and Janet Alexander. Soloists were Cathy Barlow, Michael Stogner, and Debra Stogner. An ensemble (Janet Alexander, Susan Smith, Christy Shappley and Janet Stogner) sang "Alleluia."

Others on program were Joan Remley, Todd Sumrall, Jennifer Lee, Bill Sartin, Tommy Stogner, William Morris, Pam Toney, Shane Sumrall, Justin Thomas, Janet Stogner, Chris Ingram, and Jerry Brewer.

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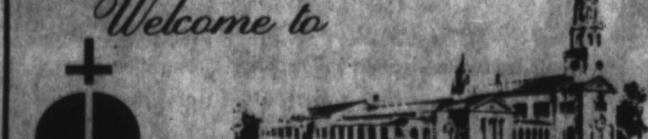
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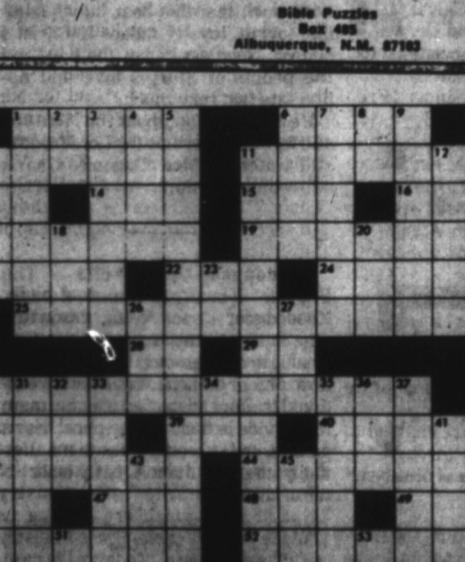
VISITING . . . OR MOVING TO ATLANTA?

Welcome to



Second Prince de Leon Baptist Church
C. Robert Marsh, Ed.D., Pastor
2715 Peachtree Road, N.E./Atlanta, Georgia 30305

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES	
SUNDAY	
MORNING WORSHIP	8:30 and 11:00 AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL	9:30 AM
CHURCH TRAINING	5:45 PM
EVENING WORSHIP	7:00 PM
WEDNESDAY	
FELLOWSHIP DINNER	5:00 PM
PRAYER SERVICE	6:30 PM



50 Ordained of old
(Isa. 30:33)

52 Abounded

54 "twice —" (Jude 12)

55 Surfeits

DOWN

1 "In a —" (1 Cor. 15:52)

2 Article

3 "of the divine —"

(2 Pet. 1)

4 Harrow's rival

5 "He said, — — —"

(John 9:17)

6 Heraldic border

7 Roll gently

8 Stibadium: abbr.

9 Sea

10 One of five

(1 Chron. 2:6)

11 "and — —"

(2 Ki. 23:5)

12 Rev's son (Gen. 11:20)

18 Salty efflorescence

on the Ganges

20 Greek letter

23 Species: abbr.

26 Be sick

27 Mohammed's adopted son

30 In the meantime:

L., abbr.

31 Mighty hunter

(Gen. 10:9)

32 Space

33 "ditch rent on —"

(2 Ki. 2:15)

34 Iron: symbol

35 Stemmed drinking vessel

36 Man's nickname

37 Ancient Egyptian city

41 Employed

43 Sover's need

45 Tree genus

51 Hebrew letter

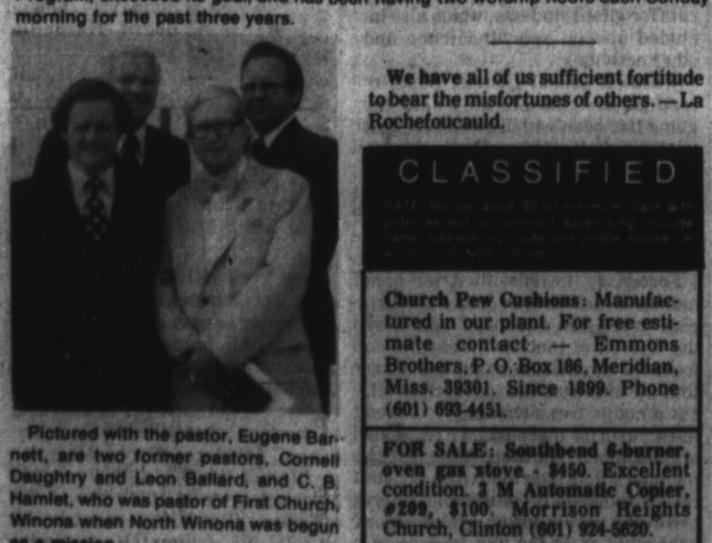
53 Pronoun

CRYPTOVERSE

TI EHUT OKCO TRUQUISIV NO

GUYH UY AUZ QNHIIOK HUO

Today's Cryptoverse clue: V equals R. Answers on page 5.



Pictured with the pastor, Eugene Barnett, are two former pastors, Cornell Daughtry and Leon Ballard, and C. B. Hamlet, who was pastor of First Church, Winona when North Winona was begun as a mission.

Any Church Can Afford It

Radio-Television Commission Now Offers High-Quality Sound System

FORT WORTH — Average-sized churches that want to broadcast but feel they can't afford the equipment can now get a high-quality sound system for less than half the price of larger models with similar capabilities.

The Mark Ten Sound System, designed by the broadcast engineering department of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, costs \$17,133 for church auditoriums seating up to 550 and \$18,943 for auditoriums seating up to 1,000.

"This high-quality, no frills, basic starter sound system produces the professional broadcasting sound of systems costing \$35,000 or more," said Eldon K. Sparrow, vice president of broadcasting engineering for the Radio-Television Commission. "In designing it we paid very careful attention to the cost value of every component."

The Mark Ten comes with 11 microphones, 15 assorted inputs and has a

speaker system custom designed for each auditorium. The speakers and electronic components are manufactured by Altec, recognized as the industry leader in commercial sound equipment.

The speaker system includes a foldback system which enables the talent (talker or singer) to hear himself with the same loudness and quality of sound heard throughout the auditorium.

The dynamic range of the Mark Ten system allows the talent to go from a whisper to a shout without distortion.

Another feature of the Mark Ten is that the controls regulating the sound within the church, and the program on-the-air, are separate. This enables the house system operator and the broadcast system operator to mix the best sound for their particular audiences.

The philosophy of design of this system is to create the illusion in the church auditorium that the listener

hears the talker or singer as though he were only four feet away. This provides the maximum impact for the listener and establishes a feeling of communication with the talent," Sparrow explained.

"The object of broadcasting with this system is to let the listener at home feel he is in the church with the congregation."

The Mark Ten is versatile in that it can be expanded or modified to meet a church's changing needs.

"Even without the other advantages, this versatility makes the Mark Ten perfect for growing churches," Sparrow said. "Several churches have purchased the system based on its flexibility, excellent quality and price range within their budget," he added.

Church representatives interested in the Mark Ten broadcasting/sound system can contact Eldon K. Sparrow, vice president of broadcast engineering, Radio-Television Commission, Fort Worth, Texas.

Staff Changes



The Fords

Mark Hamilton is new minister of music at Shady Grove Church, Hazelhurst. A native of Wesson, he is a graduate of Co-Lin Junior College and is now a senior majoring in church music at Mississippi College. Ronnie Burch is pastor.

The New Hope Church in Lawrence County has called Steve Jordan as summer activities director and assistant pastor. A junior at Mississippi College majoring in Bible, Jordan has done supply work in several churches in the state and goes to New Hope from the Crossgate Baptist Church in Rankin County where he was director of children's work. Drew Blanton is New Hope pastor.

Pleasant Hill (Greene) has called B. J. Hudson as pastor. He is a native of Lucedale and attended Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville, Fla., for one and one-half years before transferring to William Carey. He was graduated from William Carey in May of 1980.

He and his wife Bea have four children, Jo Anna, Barbara, Robert, and Scotty. Their home is in Petal.

They are graduates of Watkins High School. Robert was in the U. S. Air Force for four years and is a 1980 graduate of William Carey College where he majored in Music. He is on the staff at First Church, Taylorsville, as minister of music and youth. He is married to the former Wendy Glenn and they have one daughter, Kaleigh.

Thomas was graduated from Clarke College and the University of Southern Mississippi with a D.M. degree. He is a student at New Orleans Seminary and is also on the staff of Pleasant Grove Church in Wayne County as minister of music and youth. He is married to the former Lawanda Wells.

Prayer Room Is Named For Mrs. Pittman, 103

Crystal Springs Church, Walther County, honored its oldest citizen, Mrs. Adrian Pittman, age 103, on Sunday, June 22. Mrs. Pittman was present for the occasion, as the church dedicated a prayer room named for her.

The prayer room was furnished and decorated by Mrs. Pittman's sons, Henry and Joe Pittman. Jerry Barlow, the Crystal Springs pastor, in unison with the congregation, read the dedication message. James W. Harris, senior deacon, offered the dedicatory prayer.

The morning offering will go to the building fund.

Tinsley Will Dedicate New House On 35th Anniversary

Tinsley Church will celebrate its 35th anniversary on Sunday, July 13, with homecoming day and dedication of a new pastorum. Ray Grissett, Bob Parker, a Purvis dentist, is as-associational missions committee chairman. James Yates, pastor of Bellevue Church, is moderator.

This summer, the association plans to utilize the chapel with Bible fellowship meetings, and a meeting of the pastors' conference.

In mid-August volunteers will conduct a survey of the area. Already

Grissett, estimates there are more

than 100 unchurched families in the immediate area.

Bob Parker, a Purvis dentist, is as-

associational missions committee

chairman. James Yates, pastor of Bel-

levue Church, is moderator.

Dinner will be served at the church at 12.

The afternoon service will feature the dedication of the pastor's home. Leslie Hicks, pastor, will speak. David Chisolm, chairman of deacons, will lead the dedicatory prayer.

The morning offering will go to the building fund.

News From The Children

Again in 1980, our friends at Calvary Baptist Church in Jackson opened their hearts, along with the doors to Vacation Bible School for many boys and girls from the Village's Jackson campus. 85 Village children joined other Calvary children for a week of fun and learning, beginning June 2. In keeping with the custom, Calvary's VBS culminated with a family picnic on the closing Friday, which was attended, not only by Village children participating in Vacation Bible School, but by many houseparents, social caseworkers and others from the Village's Jackson staff.

Mrs. Sara Lee of the Calvary staff

was the VBS Director and Dr. Joe H.

Tuten, the Pastor, served as the Superintendant. Several Village young people, including Sean Milner, Fred Herrington and Dede Boyanton

worked with the faculty and Bible

School staff during the week. Misses

Dianne Dunlap and Gail Griffin, two of

the student summer missionaries as-

signed to The Baptist Children's Vil-

lage, also taught in the Bible School.

Kaylyn Hillhouse and Ricky Conlee

from our Jackson campus were re-

cently selected as "Best Campers"

during the week of attendance at a Na-

ture Camp at Holmes County State

Park. The camp was sponsored, and

Village young people were enabled to

attend and participate through the

courtesy of Garden Club of Mississipi, Inc.

Staff representatives from The Bap-

tist Children's Village, under the lead-

ership of Annette Hitt, our Christian

Education Director, are participating

with other Mississippi Baptist leaders,

at Camp Garaywa, near Clinton, in a

summer of focus and emphasis upon

State Missions. Through arrange-

ments made by Marjean Patterson,

State WMU Director and D. P. Smith,

Camp Director, Mrs. Hitt and several

other Village staff leaders of her

choice speak to G. A.'s and Actees

each Monday evening during the

summer, on the topic, "Children Are

Missions, Too". The Village is in-

formed that more than 2,000 different

Mississippi girls will hear its message

by the conclusion of the current Camp

Garaywa season, and we are grateful

to the State WMU leadership of Camp

Garaywa for affording this coveted

and unusual opportunity to represent

the emphasis upon State Mission at

Camp Garaywa this summer.

We thank Hickory Grove Baptist

Church at Poagville, and its Pastor,

Rev. Lester McMullen for a recent gift

of blankets to the boys and girls who

make their homes on the Village's

Farrow Manor Campus in Tate County.

Through the courtesy and generosity

of the church, every child and every

staff member on the Farrow Manor

Campus received a new blanket, and

in addition, the children were pre-

sented with decorative Indian biane-

kets designed for construction of a

Tepee. The Village is grateful to these

Hickory Grove friends for thinking of

the cold winter nights ahead for our

children during these hot summer

days when time remains to do some-

thing about winter nights. Every Vil-

lage child residing on the Farrow

Manor Campus receives a birthday

gift each year from the membership of

this church.

A metal building, affording badly-

needed storage space, together with a

supply of recreational equipment has

been contributed to the Village's Far-

row Manor Campus by East Corinth

Baptist Church in Corinth. So many

Christian friends in the general, North

Mississippi area continue to manifest

their interest in and loyal support of

the Village's child care ministry

through gifts which are helping us

we all prefer on our "country life cam-

pus" and we are humbly grateful.

On Saturday, June 28, a group of

energetic and compassionate men

from Alcorn Baptist Association,

under leadership of Mr. Leon Barnes

of Corinth, our Village Associational

representative in that Association,

traveled to our Farrow Manor Campus

in Tate County, and installed swing

sets and basketball goals for the use

and enjoyment of the children. The

materials used in the construction of

this equipment, and the labor required

for its construction was donated by

Morris Brothers of Corinth who built

the equipment.

This same group, under the leader-

ship of Mr. Barnes had already contrib-

uted more than \$450.00 in cash, desig-

nated for Village use in providing rec-

reational equipment for the Farrow

Manor Campus — all in response to a

published appeal for help with recre-

ational equipment, which was pub-

lished in this space, several months ago.

Names In The News.

ton, Tex. He is now pastor of First Baptist Church, Blue Ridge, Tex. He and his wife, the former Jeannie Walters, have a daughter, Nicole, age three months.

Arthur Blessitt, evangelist from Mississippi, was pictured in a recent issue of the *Baptist Times*, published

in London. In the photo he was carrying a 90-lb. cross, on the way from Jerusalem to Cairo. He was invited to walk through Lebanon before he returned to Britain for a series of nationwide gatherings in June and July. Since 1969 he has carried the cross through 47 countries, covering 17,500 miles.

Westmoreland, Ferrell O. Cork, Jr. is pastor of First, Aberdeen.

Watch This Space

(Continued from page 1)

develops there. The other half will be a recreation site for tent camping and picnics.

As for the church, "We don't even have a name for it yet," said foster missionary, Ray Grissett, of the convention board's Cooperative Missions staff.

This summer, the association plans to utilize the chapel with Bible fellowship meetings, and a meeting of the pastors' conference.

In mid-August volunteers will conduct a survey of the area. Already Grissett, estimates there are more than 100 unchurched families in the immediate area.

Bob Parker, a Purvis dentist, is as-

<p

Forever

"The Lord is my Shepherd,"
My soul he has bought.
"I shall not want."
Oh, wondrous thought!
"He maketh me to his down
In green pastures" to feed,
"He leadeth me beside the still waters."
He supplieth my need.

"He restoreth my soul"
From the Enemy's hand.
"He leadeth me in the paths
Of righteousness" grand
"For His name's sake"
I ever shall stand
In that Celestial Band.

"Yea, tho' I walk through the valley
Of the shadow of death
I will fear no evil."
I shall brave the conquest.
"For Thou art with me
Thy rod and Thy staff
They comfort me" always,
Through storm and through chaff.

"Thou preparest a table before me
In the presence of mine enemies"
Thou feedest me.
"Thou anointest my head"
Thou healest me
"With oil; my cup runneth over."

"Surely goodness and mercy
Shall follow me
All the days of my life."
Thou blesseth me
"And I will dwell" serenely
"In the house of the Lord forever."
—Ruby Cruthirds
Pascagoula

Worry

Worry is a poison,
Deadly as can be.
Jesus is the antidote,
Prescribed for you and me.

Worry is a question,
A probing, searching quest.
Jesus is the answer
That gives us peace and rest.

Worry is a hunger
That gnaws the human soul.
Jesus is the Bread of Life,
Nutritious, good, and whole.

Worry is an enemy,
Destroying from within.
Jesus is our Maker,
Our Defender, and our Friend.

Worry is a sin;
Its wages will not cease.
Jesus is our Saviour,
Our Redeemer, Prince of Peace.

—Vera Verdel
Kosciusko

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BAPTIST RECORD

—ED. KELLEY

Uniform Lesson

The Fall of Jerusalem

By Jack Glaze, Director,
Division of Religion, Mississippi College

II Kings 24:18; 25:1-5,12

During July and August the Uniform Series of lessons will continue the study of nearly 300 years (722-400 B.C.) of Old Testament history. Following the unsuccessful reforms of Hezekiah (715-687 B.C.) and Josiah (640-609 B.C.), Judah entered the tragic moment of rebellion and national destruction (609-586 B.C.). Then came the dark hour of exile (586-539 B.C.), and once again God's guiding hand in history led a remnant back to the beloved promised land (536 B.C.).

Through these difficult years prophetic voices resolutely condemned sin and the superficial popular theology that claimed God's eternal protection of Jerusalem. The moral requirements of covenant obedience were shown to be essential for national existence. Sin broke the covenant bond and renewal could only come through repentance and compliance with divinely revealed truth.

The darker the hour the more men of faith tenaciously clung to the eternal promises of God and at the same time saw more clearly the nature of both God's justice and mercy. Because prophetic voices faced the theological and practical problems of national destruction prior to the event, the faith of Israel arose from the ashes of destruction, and suffering was seen as a purifying agency potentially redemptive in nature. From Babylon God delivered his people and again in their cherished homeland they faced the challenge of rebuilding the shattered nation. During each step of the way God sent his messengers to remind the people of the essential personal covenant relationship that so easily slipped into external formality.

Lesson Background: King Josiah (640-609 B.C.) unsuccessfully attempted to lead Judah in a religious reform. Jeremiah (626-580 B.C.) apparently gave his initial support; however, it appears that he became disenchanted with the superficial popular results. In 612 B.C. Babylon conquered Nineveh (Assyria) and a new international power appeared on the scene (612-539 B.C.). In 609 B.C. the good King Josiah was killed in battle as he unsuccessfully attempted to stop the northern advance of the Egyptian army under Neco II (610-504 B.C.).

Jehoahaz (3 months, 609 B.C.)

Josiah's younger son, became king and promptly was removed by the retreating Egyptian Pharaoh.

Jehoiakim (609-598 B.C.), Josiah's older son, became a puppet king subservient to Egypt. Some few years later he became a vassal to Nebuchadnezzar (Babylonia) only to change his allegiance back to Egypt (606 B.C.), and provoked a second Babylonian invasion of Palestine.

Jehoiakim died just prior to the attack on Jerusalem and Jehoiakim (3 months, 597 B.C.), his son, reigned during the siege. Upon surrender, Jehoiakim was taken prisoner to Babylon along with many leading citizens (Ezekiel among the group), and Zedekiah (597-587 B.C.), son of Josiah, was placed on the throne as a vassal to Nebuchadnezzar. Zedekiah revolted in 587 B.C. and once more Judah became the victim of the Babylonian wrath.

In 587 B.C. Jerusalem was besieged and in 586 B.C. the city and the Temple were completely destroyed. Once again deportation to Babylon was the fate of the principle survivors. Nevertheless, from the ranks of the defeated, decimated and chastened nation came anew the vision of faith and hope in God's purposefulness in history both yesterday, today and forever.

LESSON OUTLINE

I. Sin and Rebellion (24:18-29)

The destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple forms the climax towards which the author (historian) of Kings moves. His viewpoint is that of Deuteronomy (e.g. Deut. 28) with blessings upon those who obey God's commandments, and punishment for disobedience. Just as in the case of Samaria (II Kings 17-18, 722 B.C.), sin (v. 19) brings its ultimate retribution.

The historian is more concerned with the theological interpretation of the events (history) than he is with a detailed record of the tragic events themselves.

Zedekiah was a brother of Jehoahaz, an uncle of Jehoiakim. He evidenced in his life the continuing struggle between the pro-Egyptian and pro-Babylonian parties in Judah and was totally inadequate for the task he faced. He was a puppet king in conflict with himself and those around him.

Jeremiah 37 indicates something of his struggle as secretly he sends for the prophet (37:17) and yet publicly he

continued in his sin and foolish pro-Egyptian policy. The consequence of the long years of moral rebellion led to the judgment of God on Jerusalem and Judah (24:20).

II. Siege and Destruction (25:1-4)

In late December (25:1-4) of 588 B.C. the 19 month siege of Jerusalem began. The Bible continually stresses the connection between privilege and responsibility and the tragic consequences of sin. God is sovereign Lord of history and maintains ultimate control over men and nations. The historian vividly notes that prolonged moral rebellion and political intrigue resulted in the final loss of freedom and corresponding hunger in the city (25:3). The famine was first spiritual and then physical!

The first hint of defeat came as the king and the "men of war" sought to escape (25:4). They fled eastward only to be captured on the plains of Jericho. The king was taken to the Babylonian headquarters, Riblah, and there sentenced (25:6-7).

III. Defeat and Exile (25:8-21)

A month after the flight of the King, Jerusalem finally fell to the Babylonian captain, Nebuzaradan. The city was razed and the Temple plundered and destroyed (Kings 25:13-17, Jer. 52). Hostages who were taken to Nebuchadnezzar from the priesthood, officialdom, and prominent people at large were promptly executed (25:18-21).

Once again the Babylonians employed their brutal policy of elimination and deportation, leaving only "the poor of the land" or farm laborers (25:11-12).

The official history ends (v. 21); however, an appendix gives details of subsequent events in Palestine (25:22-26), and finally the optimistic note (v. 27-30) of Jehoiakim's favorable treatment in Babylon. Judah, not God, had failed!

If the sovereign Lord of history was able to preserve a royal descendant of the line of David even in exile, would He not be able to restore an obedient remnant of his people to their homeland and service in His kingdom?

Lesson Applied

Nations, as well as individuals, stand under divine judgment. Practices and policies of leaders are extremely influential in the internal structure and welfare of a nation. Pray that the lessons of history may be constructively applied today in the face of our collective needs.

West Corinth Church, Corinth, children and youth participated in the State Bible Drill at West Point. They are: (front row, left to right) Rozanne Pratt, Denise Hughes, Ashley Calver, Brett Campbell, Karen Thompson; (second row) Renae Baker, Ann Barnes, Bonnie Franks, Brad Campbell, Kevin Cooley; (back row) Mrs. C. L. Pott, Bible Drill leader.

In the children's division, Denise Hughes, Brett Campbell, Renae Baker, and Brad Campbell achieved superior ratings. Ashley Calver rated excellent, and Karen Thompson received state participant rating.

In the youth division Rozanne Pratt, Ann Barnes, Bonnie Franks and Kevin Cooley each rated superior. Kevin, Bonnie, and Rozanne qualified to participate in the Selection Tournament in Jackson, where Kevin earned the honor of attending a five-day youth conference at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly in Pass Christian, Miss.

Mrs. Pott, who coached the group in their work, has been leading Bible drill students for more than 26 years.

—Courtesy of Corinth Daily Leader

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BAPTIST RECORD

—ED. KELLEY

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